

REMARKS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the application are respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks herewith, which place the application into condition for allowance.

It is submitted that these claims, as originally presented, are patentably distinct over the prior art cited by the Examiner, and that these claims were in full compliance with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112. Changes to these claims, and the remarks that follow as presented herein, are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §101, §102, §103, or §112. Rather, these changes and remarks are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which Applicants are entitled.

Claims 1-8 and 14-19 are pending. Claims 1, 14 and 18 are amended, without prejudice. No new matter is added by these amendments. Support for the amended recitations in the claims is found throughout the specification, and particularly, on page 29, lines 1-18 of the present specification and Fig. 6.

Claims 1, 14, 15 and 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) allegedly as being anticipated by Kim (U.S. Patent No. 5,737,019). Applicants disagree.

For example, claim 1, as amended herein, recites in part, "A digital signal conversion method comprising... orthogonally transforming the coupled new block...**wherein said forming step multiplies a first matrix, a second matrix and a third matrix, so as to form said new coupled block, said first matrix comprising said partial orthogonal transform coefficients, said second matrix comprising two inverse discrete transform matrices on a diagonal and**

said third matrix comprising discrete transform coefficients.” (Underlining and Bold added for emphasis.)

It is respectfully submitted that the portions of Kim relied upon by the Examiner neither disclose nor enable at least the above-recited feature of claim 1.

Kim relates to changing the number of samples in a coded signal by directly mapping original transform coefficients in the coded signal to new transform coefficients (column 1, lines 5-15). Kim also teaches transforming the resolution of an image from a first image resolution to a second image resolution (column 3, lines 3-16). The instantly claimed invention provides for orthogonally transforming a coupled new block, wherein a forming step or a resolution conversion means multiplies a first matrix, a second matrix and a third matrix, so as to form the new coupled block, the first matrix comprising partial orthogonal transform coefficients, the second matrix comprising two inverse discrete transform matrices on a diagonal and the third matrix comprising discrete transform coefficients, as instantly claimed. Kim is not concerned with a mathematical calculation procedure that involves the multiplication of matrices in order to achieve more efficient conversion processing. Therefore, the instant claims are believed to be distinguishable from Kim for at least the reasons stated above.

For reasons similar to those described above, claims 14 and 18 are also believed to be distinguishable from Kim.

Claim 15 depends from claim 14 and, due to such dependency, is also believed to be distinguishable from Kim for at least the reasons previously described.

Applicants therefore respectfully request that the rejection of claims 1, 14, 15 and 18 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) over Kim be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Claims 2-8, 16, 17 and 19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) allegedly as being unpatentable over Kim (U.S. Patent No. 5,737,019). Applicants disagree.


Claims 2-8, 16, 17 and 19 depend from one of claims 1, 14 and 18, and, due to such dependency, are also believed to be distinguishable from Kim for at least the reasons previously described. Therefore, claims 2-8, 16, 17 and 19 are believed to be distinguishable from Kim.

Applicants therefore respectfully request that the rejection of claims 2-8, 16, 17 and 19 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Kim be reconsidered and withdrawn.

In the event that the Examiner disagrees with any of the foregoing comments concerning the disclosures in the cited prior art, it is requested that the Examiner indicate where in the reference, there is the bases for a contrary view.

Please charge any fees incurred by reason of this response and not paid herewith to Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

Respectfully submitted,
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